

**From:** [Loney, Natalie](#)  
**To:** [Johnson, Valencia](#)  
**Cc:** [Kandil, Shereen](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG  
**Date:** Thursday, June 16, 2022 8:02:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[Lisa Garcia EPA re CAG 032822.pdf](#)

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Oops.

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**From:** Johnson, Valencia <[Johnson.Valencia@epa.gov](mailto:Johnson.Valencia@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 16, 2022 8:00 AM  
**To:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG  
I can't open. It's on your c:

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**From:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 16, 2022 7:58 AM  
**To:** Johnson, Valencia <[Johnson.Valencia@epa.gov](mailto:Johnson.Valencia@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG  
[Lisa Garcia EPA re CAG 032822.pdf](#)

This one is a little weird, no address. We'll have to respond by e-mail just as they sent it.

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**From:** Johnson, Valencia <[Johnson.Valencia@epa.gov](mailto:Johnson.Valencia@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 16, 2022 6:28 AM  
**To:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG  
Good Morning  
No problem. I need an address to whom the letter is going to be sent to.

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**From:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 4:28 PM  
**To:** Johnson, Valencia <[Johnson.Valencia@epa.gov](mailto:Johnson.Valencia@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

Valencia,

Please format the attached letter (link below) on electronic letterhead. Sabina will forward the document to Walter/Lisa for their review.

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**From:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 4:04 PM  
**To:** Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>; Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

Thanks both! Can you work with Valencia to get this formatted on electronic letterhead? Then I can send to Walter/Lisa for review/signature.

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**From:** Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 2:56 PM  
**To:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>; Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG  
Hey Sabina,  
Please find the [updated letter](#).  
Thanks

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**Shereen Kandil** *(she/her)*

Team Leader, Community Affairs

Public Affairs Office

212-637-4333

[Kandil.shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.shereen@epa.gov)



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2

290 Broadway, 26<sup>th</sup> Floor

New York, NY 10007

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**From:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 15, 2022 7:07 AM  
**To:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>; Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

Following up on this. Can you take a look at the draft and try to remove the footnotes?

Thanks,

Sabina

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 13, 2022, at 5:25 PM, Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)> wrote:

Thanks Natalie. Mary didn't like the footnotes, can we try to incorporate that text into the letter, or just say something like: "which can be found here:" and link to those docs on the web?

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**From:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2022 4:13 PM  
**To:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>; Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

Had some connection issues but I've made the changes to the letter and (FINALLY) posted it in the Community Involvement teams page. In the past when responding to letters for the RA from residents we have included the original letter in our response, just for ease of review for Mary. Do we want to use that method or are we keeping the docs separate?

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**From:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2022 2:31 PM

**To:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>; Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

Perfect- I am free until 3 if you can talk now. Just call me on Teams, thanks!

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**From:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2022 2:28 PM

**To:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>; Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

I called you about 15 minutes ago to go over them.

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**From:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2022 2:27 PM

**To:** Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>; Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

Hi Natalie, Checking in on this, are you okay with my edits?

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**From:** Byck, Sabina

**Sent:** Thursday, June 9, 2022 4:05 PM

**To:** Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>; Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

Thanks Shereen. Natalie I made some suggested edits on SharePoint. Can you take a look and let me know if you have any concerns. It might be easier to quickly share screens and talk through, feel free to give me a call.

Thanks,

Sabina

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**From:** Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 9, 2022 8:46 AM

**To:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>; Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

The in the coming months

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**Shereen Kandil** (*she/her*)

Team Leader, Community Affairs

Public Affairs Office

212-637-4333

[Kandil.shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.shereen@epa.gov)



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2

290 Broadway, 26<sup>th</sup> Floor

New York, NY 10007

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**From:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 8, 2022 9:00 PM

**To:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>; Kandil, Shereen

<[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

I am thinking some version of the intro from that letter could also work here:

Dear ?

I am honored to introduce myself as U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 2's Regional Administrator. I am delighted to be back at EPA and excited about the work we can accomplish together implementing the Biden-Harris environmental agenda.

Since coming to EPA Region 2 in November, I have been working to ensure that environmental justice is integrated into all of our decisions. I have been briefed by the Gowanus Canal Superfund site project team about the cleanup and am particularly impressed with the collaborative efforts of EPA and the CAG, as well as the local, state and federal elected officials as we move this important cleanup forward.

Thank you for reaching out to share your concerns. I also (first?) want to thank you for the time and effort you have dedicated to serving on the Community Advisory Group.

As you are aware...

I can edit tomorrow when the document is on SharePoint/Teams

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**From:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 8, 2022 5:23 PM

**To:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>; Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

This is the language from the original e-mail we drafted for Lisa to send to the CAG. I don't think it works in this letter:

This series of recent e-mails from members of the CAG contain highly inflammatory statements. The language in some of the correspondence is disrespectful and inappropriate. This type of engagement is very counterproductive to our collective efforts and does not further progress in a meaningful way, nor does it foster inclusivity for all people impacted by EPA's cleanup.

In order to facilitate healthy engagement by addressing these concerns, I will be working with Doug to organize a CAG focused workshop on sensitivity, cultural awareness and microaggressions, with the goal of fostering positive engagement and re-focusing the CAG's efforts on working together toward a successful cleanup of the Gowanus Canal.

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**From:** Byck, Sabina <[Byck.Sabina@epa.gov](mailto:Byck.Sabina@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 8, 2022 4:30 PM

**To:** Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>

**Cc:** Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

Thanks Shereen and Natalie. I will look at this first thing tomorrow. I can't tell from my phone, but if it isn't already, can you put this on teams? I wonder if we want to borrow from the first paragraph of the original email we had drafted for Lisa to send to the CAG when these issues first came up. Any chance you have a copy of that draft handy? I noticed one minor edit: the website will need to be spelled out [www.epa.gov/etc](http://www.epa.gov/etc) if you could make that change and send me a Teams/Sharepoint link that would be helpful.

Thanks,  
Sabina

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 8, 2022, at 4:18 PM, Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)> wrote:

Sabina,

Attached is a draft response letter from the RA to the Gowanus CAG, as well as the original letter sent to the RA.

Thanks

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Shereen Kandil (she/her)  
Team Leader, Community Affairs  
Public Affairs Office  
212-637-4333  
[Kandil.shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.shereen@epa.gov)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2  
290 Broadway, 26th Floor  
New York, NY 10007

-----Original Message-----

From: Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 10:18 AM  
To: Kandil, Shereen <[Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov](mailto:Kandil.Shereen@epa.gov)>  
Subject: FW: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

I spoke with Christos about the letter. He seems fine with it. I say we move it forward.

-----Original Message-----

From: Loney, Natalie  
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2022 12:46 PM  
To: Tsiamis, Christos <[Tsiamis.Christos@epa.gov](mailto:Tsiamis.Christos@epa.gov)>; Brian Carr <[Carr.Brian@epa.gov](mailto:Carr.Brian@epa.gov)>  
Subject: FW: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

Attached for your review is the draft response to the letter sent to the RA by four founding organizational members of the CAG.

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric McClure <[eric@parksloopenighbors.org](mailto:eric@parksloopenighbors.org)>  
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 11:27 AM  
To: Garcia, Lisa <[Garcia.Lisa@epa.gov](mailto:Garcia.Lisa@epa.gov)>

Cc: Andrea Parker <[andrea@gowanuscanalconservancy.org](mailto:andrea@gowanuscanalconservancy.org)>; Chrissy Remein <[cremein@riverkeeper.org](mailto:cremein@riverkeeper.org)>; Michelle de la Uz <[mdelauz@fifthave.org](mailto:mdelauz@fifthave.org)>; Loney, Natalie <[Loney.Natalie@epa.gov](mailto:Loney.Natalie@epa.gov)>; Tsiamis, Christos <[Tsiamis.Christos@epa.gov](mailto:Tsiamis.Christos@epa.gov)>; Carr, Brian <[Carr.Brian@epa.gov](mailto:Carr.Brian@epa.gov)>; [doug@forumfg.com](mailto:doug@forumfg.com)  
Subject: Letter Regarding Gowanus Canal CAG

Dear Regional Administrator Garcia,

Attached please find a letter from four founding organizational members of the Gowanus Canal Community Advisory Group colleagues, seeking EPA's assistance in addressing untenable dynamics within the CAG. We'd greatly appreciate your attention to this urgent matter, and are happy to discuss the situation or answer any questions you may have.

Thank you.

Best regards,

Andrea Parker, Gowanus Canal Conservancy  
Chrissy Remein, Riverkeeper  
Michelle de la Uz, Fifth Avenue Committee  
Eric McClure, Park Slope Neighbors